



2013 TOWN OF FAIRFAX

**SELECTBOARD MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2013
7:00 PM**

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Selectboard Members Present: Randy DeVine, Chair; Dave Shea, Tom Fontaine and Leebeth Ann Lemieux. Chris Santee was absent.

Public Present: Stephen Bessette, Emergency Management Coordinator; Jeff Corey and Barb Murphy, residents; D. Jay Leach, Road Foreman; Peter King, Town Constable; Skip Taylor, Z.A.

Call to Order: Randy called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

Minutes 11.18.13:

*Tom made the motion to approve the minutes for 11.18.13 as written; seconded by Dave. The motion carried with a vote of 4-0.

Warrant Items: Tom stated that he reviewed both sets of orders and didn't see any issues. Dave asked why we pay sales tax on some invoices and not on others as the town should be exempt. He also stated that there's a distinct change in hours worked in one employee from working 40 hours last week but is back working part-time hours.

Public Input:

Barb Murphy came in this evening representing the Home Health Agency's annual request for support from the Town. She was asking the Board if it would be alright to put a petition out for signatures. The Home Health Agency is asking for \$8,750.00 (\$2.00 per resident) in support. She was asked what services the agency provides to residents, which she provided. The Board was in support of the petition.

Jeff Corey came in with questions about the proposed "Weight Ordinance". Peter King, Town Constable, weighed in on the ordinance and what the purpose of the ordinance was. Jeff was given a copy of the ordinance to date. He was assured that this was just in the discussion phase. David Shea read a comment from a concerned resident on McNall Road and the proposed weight ordinance. Peter stated that the purpose of the ordinance is to protect the roads.

Agenda:

D. Jay Leach, Road Foreman:

D. Jay also weighed in on the weight ordinance. He stated that the new Western Star is performing well. Dave passed along a compliment from a citizen to the Highway Department on the ditching work performed on Woodward Road. D. Jay was asked about the performance of the wood chipper. He stated it's been used a couple of times and worked well. D. Jay asked about the Emerald Ash Borer program and why some trees were flagged and some not. Dave stated that trees that were 8" or bigger were sprayed.

Executive Session:

8:04 pm. - Dave made the motion to enter into executive session to discuss a personnel matter. The motion was seconded by Tom. The motion carried with a vote of 4-0.

Exit Executive Session:

8:16 pm. - Dave made the motion to exit executive session; seconded by Tom. The motion carried with a vote of 4-0.

*Tom made the motion to approve five days of vacation; seconded by Dave. The motion carried with all in favor 4-0.

Deviation from Agenda:

Steve Bessette was asked to come in this evening to discuss his budget. He has a balance in his budget of 1,651.22. He would like to purchase a new computer for emergency management at around \$700.00. He also would like to purchase two GPS units to use with the Fire Department. He has two purchase orders he would like the SB to approve and sign. By consensus, the Board approved the orders. Steve stated the mitigation plan needs to be updated in 2014. He will get in touch with D. Jay and Justin Hayes to start work on that. Steve stated that he has been approached by the Red Cross for a shelter facility here as there's already a certified Red Cross facility because of the generator.

Skip Taylor, Z.A.:

Skip handed out a revised Activity Report form 8/6/13 through 12/2/13. He stated that the new zoning assistant was working out well and fitting in. The activity report was reviewed and a discussion ensued. The Zoning Office has been awarded a Municipal Planning Grant of \$12,623.00 for a feasibility study of a pedestrian connection between the historic portion of the Village and the Post Office area. The Town must match the grant with \$2,312.00. He has contacted the Union Bank to see if we can bond 90% of the construction in February and the remaining 10% after the paving is done. This would be an attempt to avoid the possibility that the interest rates would increase between February and May.

Amy Sears, Utility Manager:

Amy comes in this evening to discuss the Utility Department's budget. She was sent a list of ten items they would like to discuss. Amy passed out a Profit & Loss statement, dated January through December 2013. The statement was reviewed and a discussion ensued. Water allocations that are currently allocated but not utilized were discussed as a possible means to obtain additional allocations. It's in the plan to perform 72-hour pump testing on the new wells in the spring. Amy was asked to investigate the availability of funds to pay for the pump testing.

12.2.13 SB Minutes Cont.: Amy Sears, Utility Manager

A discussion ensued regarding money in the budget for required clean-up of the lagoons and fixing four manholes due to water infiltration. David stated that he didn't see where any monies had been expended in the budget for these projects. Amy stated that it was noted in the budget that it was something that should be performed but not something that had to be done. The Board asked Amy to tackle the job of finding out what it would cost to hook-up to Amoskeag; what would it cost to hook up at Wheezy's Way and what would the total cost be if all three were hooked up. Amy stated that she would not be able to provide a 2014 budget until she receives pay raise and insurance information. She was asked to provide a projected budget.

Randy DeVine, W/S Superintendent

Randy handed out his W/S activity report for the month of November, 2013. The report does not include regular daily required activities. The report was reviewed with Randy.

Other Business:

1. Jim Magnan, CV0527, Town Road #16, presented an application, accompanied with a check for the appropriate \$ amount, for boring under, excavation in, or digging across a town road. The Board agreed by consensus to approve the application, which they signed. The Vermont Electric Cooperative, Inc. permission form was also signed by the Board and D. Jay Leach, Road Foreman.
2. Green Mountain Power, Rose Dubois, Field Technician, petition and order for pole and wire locations. Josh Stillman is building a house at the end of Bessette Road. Green Mountain Power is requesting the Board approve and sign the form allowing them to install underground utility cables with the R.O.W. of Bessette Road. The Board tabled this until we can contact VLCT for advice to proceed. (A resolution was made after the meeting. No further discussion necessary.)
3. Wyckoff sewer application - the Board by consensus approved signing the application permit. The permit was then given to Skip Taylor, Z.A.
4. Katrina Antonovich has requested permission from the Board to attend a meeting in Randolph for the Recs and Parks. The Board by consensus approved the mileage for her to attend. The fee for the meeting was waived.
5. Social Media Policy - Tabled.
6. Mileage Log - Tabled.
7. Employee luncheon - approved by consensus.

Adjourn:

10:30 pm.: *Dave made the motion to adjourn; seconded by Tom. The motion carried with all members in favor 4-0.

The next regularly scheduled SB meeting will be Monday, December 16, 2013.

The minutes were respectfully submitted by Stacy Wells, Adm. Asst.

Randy DeVine, Chair
Town of Fairfax Selectboard

RLD/sw